

FILE US SUPPORT NATO

Strategic Studies
Foreign Service of the
United States of America

TELEGRAM

INCOMING AMERICAN EMBASSY PARIS

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Classification

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ACTION: USRO

INFO

CHARGE

MINECON FROM: WASHINGTON

POL-5

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STOESSEL-1

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ACTION PARIS TOPOL--PASS STOESSEL

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Correction underlined

Part. 3.

KOHLER-8

Dept message July 21 sent all addressees concerning basic US position on Berlin foreshadows major steps which we will be urging our allies to take to strengthen defense posture of Alliance. We expect shortly to be presenting to all NATO allies somewhat more concrete measures in military field which we believe necessary. These have already been presented to British, French and Germans and will be subject forthcoming Four Power discussions in Paris.

ACTION

POL-4

INFO

OES-5

ECON-1

DEF-7

Major US effort in period immediately ahead will be concentrated on encouraging our allies to take these urgent military steps made necessary by Berlin situation. These measures closely parallel measures which we have been encouraging in longer-range NATO strategy discussions in NATO, and would result in basic and lasting improvement in NATO's non-nuclear posture. In fact, measures we are proposing in context Berlin program will help us meet most objectives of NATO exercise, with Berlin situation acting as better stimulant to action than was case with longer-range NATO exercise. Latter had become somewhat bogged down in conceptual and semantic controversy which we consider desirable to avoid.

US therefore believes our efforts, both bilaterally and in NAC, should now be concentrating on basic measures to build up NATO non-nuclear forces required in Berlin program. While we should give first priority now to our proposals for force improvement in Berlin context, NATO strategy exercise should by no means be abandoned, but should proceed at slower pace. This approach has added advantage of giving US required time to work out internally its own views on specifics of longer-term NATO force objectives.

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Authority

MR. JG-26545

By

MLE Date 8/11/89

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USRO should discuss this change in emphasis fully with Stikker and enlist his cooperation in period immediately ahead. USRO should also be guided by above in further Council discussions.

RUSK

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